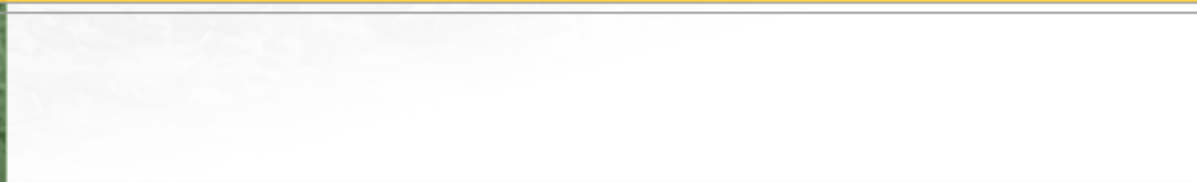
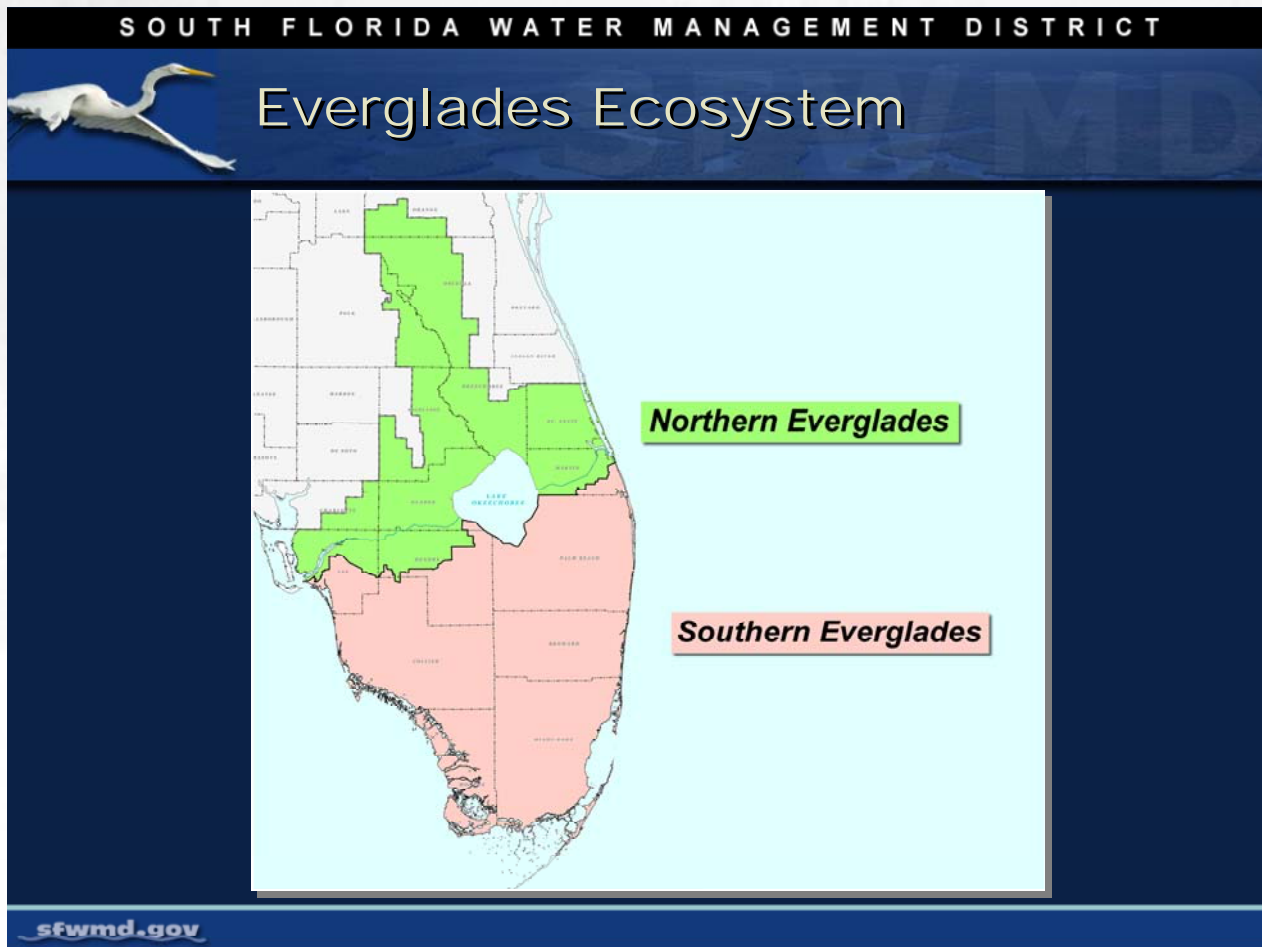




Northern Everglades Initiative Update
Tom Teets, Program Implementation Manager,
July 18, 2007



Everglades Ecosystem



Northern Everglades Legislation

- **The Northern Everglades legislation provides a dedicated state funding source for the Northern Everglades restoration**
 - **Expanding the use of the Save Our Everglades Trust Fund to include the Lake Okeechobee Watershed Protection Plan and the River's Watershed Protection Plans for the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie.**
- **The Bill will also extend the state's commitment to provide funding for CERP and the Northern Everglades through the year 2020.**

Northern Everglades Legislation

- **Expands Lake Okeechobee Protection Program to the Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Program**
- **Development of a technical plan to identify the storage and water quality treatment requirements for the Lake Okeechobee watershed by February 1, 2008.**
 - **Process Development and Engineering component**
- **Development of the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie Rivers Watershed Protection Plans to identify watershed storage and water quality projects by January 1, 2009.**

Northern Everglades Legislation

- **Implementation of projects to meet the Lake Okeechobee Total Maximum Daily Load of 140 metric tons of phosphorus to the Lake by 2015.**
- **The watershed protection plans will be the basis for Basin Management Action Plans (BMAPs)**
- **Data used in the technical plans will be updated every three years**

Northern Everglades Legislation

- **The Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie River Watershed Protection Programs will include goals for salinity envelopes and freshwater inflow targets for each estuary**
- **Total maximum daily loads for tidal portions of Caloosahatchee River and estuary to be proposed for final agency action by December 31, 2008 by Department of Environmental Protection**

Phase II Technical Plan Lake Okeechobee Watershed

Schedule

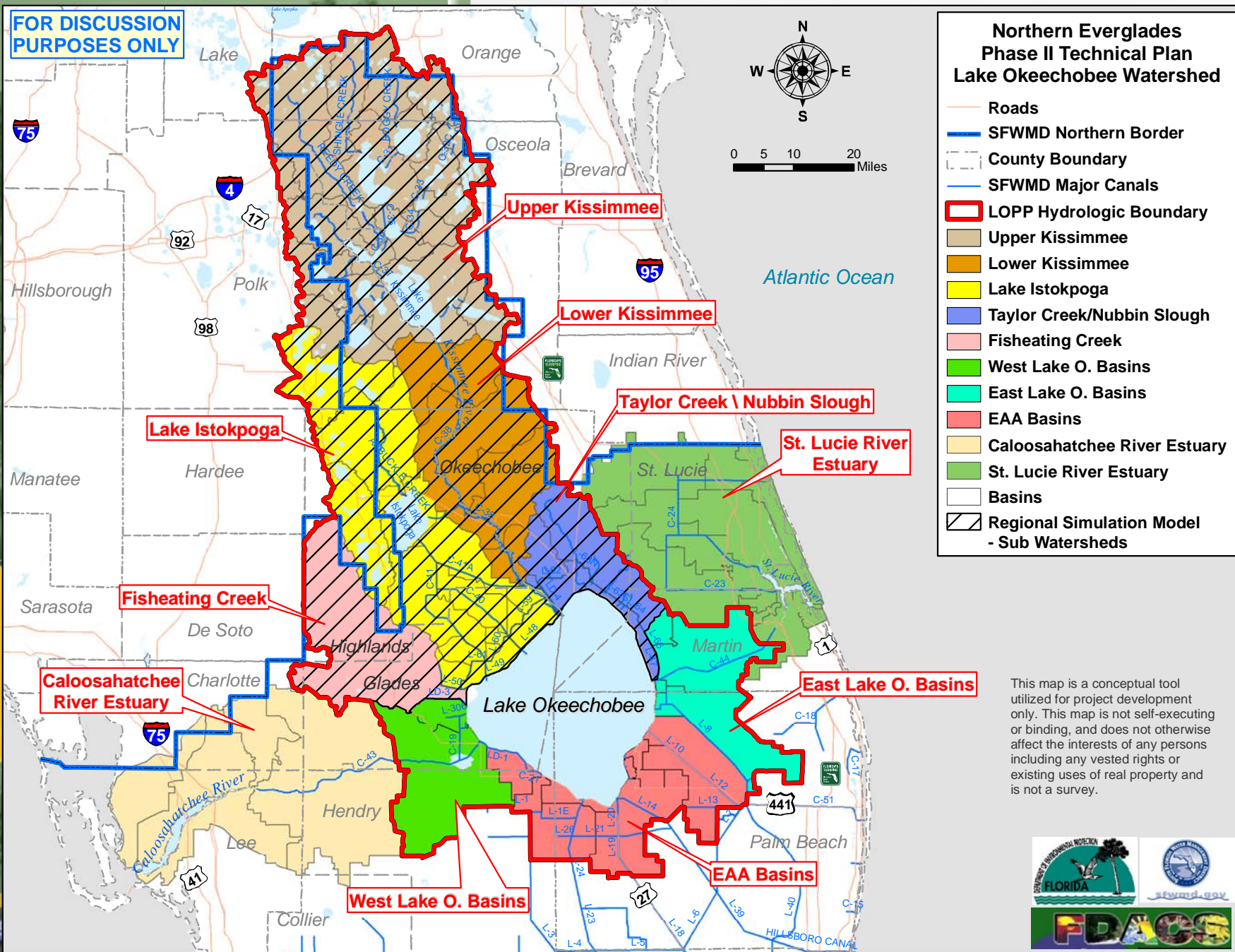
- **Assemble Baseline Information
and Alternative Formulation** Summer 2007
- **Draft Plan** October 2007
- **Final Plan to Governing Board** January 2008
- **Submit Plan to Legislature** February 1 2008

St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee River Watershed Protection Plans

Schedule

- | | |
|--|------------------------|
| ■ Draft Plan | Fall 2008 |
| ■ Final Plan to Governing Board | November 2008 |
| ■ Submit Plan to Legislature | January 1, 2009 |

FOR DISCUSSION
PURPOSES ONLY



This map is a conceptual tool utilized for project development only. This map is not self-executing or binding, and does not otherwise affect the interests of any persons including any vested rights or existing uses of real property and is not a survey.



Phase II Technical Plan Lake Okeechobee Watershed

Problems

- Undesirable high levels in Lake Okeechobee
- Undesirable low levels in Lake Okeechobee
- Excess regulatory discharges to the Caloosahatchee Estuary
- Undesirable low flows to the Caloosahatchee Estuary
- Excess regulatory discharges to the St. Lucie Estuary
- Excessive phosphorus loads to Lake Okeechobee
- Limited operating flexibility for lakes stage management
- Upper Floridan – groundwater water supply limitations in Upper Kissimmee Basin

Phase II Technical Plan Lake Okeechobee Watershed

Objectives

- **Meet Lake Okeechobee Watershed Total Maximum Daily Loads**
- **Manage Lake Okeechobee levels within an ecologically desirable range**
- **Manage flows to meet desirable salinity ranges for the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee Estuaries**
- **Identify opportunities for alternative surface water supply sources in the watershed**

Phase II Technical Plan Lake Okeechobee Watershed

Constraints

- **Provide Kissimmee River restoration flows**
- **Avoid precluding Everglades restoration flows**
- **Maintain water supply for affected water user basins**
- **Herbert Hoover Dike limitations**
- **Maintain existing levels of flood protection**
- **Minimum flows and levels- Lake Okeechobee, St. Lucie Estuary, Caloosahatchee Estuary, Lake Istokpoga**
- **Water quality standards**

Phase II Technical Plan Lake Okeechobee Watershed

Management Measures

■ Definition

- A management measure is a feature or activity that can be implemented at a specific site to address one or more planning objectives.
- A feature is defined as a structural element that requires construction or assembly on-site.
- An activity is defined as a non-structural action or a practice that is implemented to achieve one or more project goals.

Phase II Technical Plan Lake Okeechobee Watershed

Management Measures

- **Currently compiling and sorting measures by levels**
- **Levels of management measures**
 - **Level 1- Already constructed/implemented or construction/implementation imminent**
 - **Level 2- Construction/implementation likely; Detailed design/activity development ongoing; Location well defined**
 - **Level 3- Implementation certainty unknown; Conceptual level of design/activity development complete; Location defined**
 - **Level 4- Implementation certainty unknown- Conceptual idea; May have rough order of magnitude cost and/or general basin location**
 - **Level 5- Implementation certainty unknown-Conceptual idea with limited information**

An aerial photograph of a landscape. In the foreground, there are green agricultural fields divided by roads. A small settlement with white buildings is visible. In the middle ground, there is a body of water, possibly a lake or a wide river. A large, bright, puffy cloud formation is visible over the water, with rays of light emanating from it. The sky is blue with some wispy clouds.

Questions